



The Community Men's Club earned first prize trophy honors in the Duxbury Education Foundation's third annual spelling bee at DHS Monday night. Over 200 people attended the event. L to R - Charles Brumley, Rick Peterson and Steve Woodworth.

## Community Effort Raises \$20K in Third Annual Spelling Bee

It was the spelling of B-I-S-E, ironically pronounced "BEES", that took top honors at Monday's third annual Duxbury Education Fund spelling BEE competition.

And it was the Community Men's Club trio called Paisano's 'Bam "bee" nos' who identified the correct letters of the noun which means, "a blast of wind".

Over 200 spectators and participants of all ages packed the DHS gymnasium for over three hours of fun as Steve Woodworth, Rick Peterson and

David Brumley held on until the end to knock off the co-finalist "Unsinkable Unitarians" hurdling final words including: cirrhosis, parricide, rhesus, aardwolf, phacochrous and roux on their road to victory.

The team was presented with crowns and a spelling trophy which will be kept with their names engraved at the Duxbury Library.

The big league spelling champs savored their victory over the 55 other teams who competed in seven hive competitions. They called the win a

"thrill" and honor they were proud to achieve for the local men's club. Woodworth is an attorney, Brumley a doctor and Peterson is in real estate.

The event raised over \$20,000 as sponsors and team members combined to raise funds for the DEF which supports innovative and challenging educational programs in the schools through special grants.

DEF President Martha Popoloski told the audience, "Your support drives the

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Duxbury Education Foundation. Funds raised last year enabled the DEF to bring many authors, artists, musicians and high tech programs in music and science to the schools, she said.

DEF is a private, not for profit organization founded in 1989 after Prop 21/2 cutbacks threatened many fine arts and enrichment programs. It is managed by a 15- member board of trustees who review grants and raise funds.

Once again Jim Fagan, veteran master of ceremonies and local father of four, ran the event with comic flair and professionalism. The veteran talkmaster noted that this year there were more spectators in the audience than in past years.

School Supt. Eileen Williams served as wordmaster feeding hundreds of words and definitions to the 168 players who made up teams in the seven hives.

The gymnasium was decorated in "bee" theme and over 60 volunteers from timekeepers to audio visual assistants pitched in.

Students and teachers, businesses and families, community organizations and neighborhoods competed in a

friendly, fun and challenging competition which drew people of all ages.

A festive atmosphere was created through the enthusiasm of the team members who dressed in unique costumes, competing for an additional prize. Costume prizes went to the "Bee Mines" dressed in pink and purple insect costumes made up of John Pickett, Meghan Muncey and Abigail Smith and the 'Ha "bee" tats' for Humanity who sported work clothes mad up of Eileen Dillon, Bob Clark and Diane Alongi.

Other colorful costumes included the heavenly Pilgrim Primers, the Football Floozies the Collegiate Champions, Honest Abes and the decked out "A Class Act".

The Three Pulpiteers combined forces of Rev. Michael Marrone in NY Yankees cap along with Rev. Robert Walsh and Ken Landall. Other catchy team names included J. Michael Landscaping's "We Bee Mow-Rons", "The Quayles", and the "Eel Literates."

Competitors received a Paidea book (containing thousands of words) upon registration, and tired to study as many potential stumpers as possible.

A pre-bee supper of clam chowder and alphabet soup will was served in the DHS cafeteria from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Each team paid a tax deductible \$300 entry fee to participate. New this year was a "mulligan" option whereby a team could purchase a second chance in the preliminary round for \$100 additional.

Contributions from local businesses support the pre bee supper, goodie bags, decorations and supplies.

Judges for this year's event included: Asst. School Supt. John Kerrigan, *Clipper* Editor Josh Cutler, Lyell Franke, Bob Johnson, Roz Thompson, Dolores Savage, and Sidney McClure.

Other teams in the final round included: Pilgrim Primers with Carolyn Walsh, Joan Barrington and Lisa Williams; Gator Aides with Jay Craft, Dana Butler and Emily Drilling; DHS Dragon Bees with Amanda Williams, Ben Carleton and Jen Walters; Un-sinkable Unitarians with Bonnie Jernigan, Jon Lehman and Heather Ferguson-Hull; Alden Palindromes with Janet Ritch, Rachel Stadlerman and Missy Bateman; and the Three Demosketeers including Judy Rogozenski, Stephen Carpenter and Jim Ahern.

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